

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 047051
ORIGIN SNM-05

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 047051

STADIS//////////

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM S/NM-FALCO, ARA DEP ASST SEC ARELLANO

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:SNAR

SUBJECT: BILATERAL AND REGIONAL NARCOTICS OPERATIONS

1. IN SEVERAL AREAS OF THE WORLD, DEA AND OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES ARE INVOLVED IN NARCOTICS-RELATED OPERATIONS WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS, OR WITH THE AUTHORITIES OF SEVERAL NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES ON A REGIONAL BASIS. TOO OFTEN THE DEPARTMENT IS NEITHER CONSULTED NOR AWARE OF THE PLANNING OF THESE OPERATIONS. (RECENT EXAMPLES ARE OPERATION STOPGAP INVOLVING COLOMBIA; OPERATION PISCO WITH PERU AND NEIGHBORING STATES; AND A PROGRAM INVOLVING TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO A U.N. PROJECT IN AFGHANISTAN.) WE KNOW FROM RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH SEVERAL AMBASSADORS THAT WHEN AN AGENCY FIELD REPRESENTATIVE PRESENTS A PROJECT TO THE AMBASSADOR FOR APPROVAL, THE LATTER MAY ASSUME COORDINATION HAS ALREADY TAKEN PLACE AT THE WASHINGTON
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PAGE 02 STATE 047051

LEVEL.

2. THIS MESSAGE ADDRESSES OUR CONCERN THAT (1) ALL NARCOTICS PROGRAMS ABROAD ARE PROPERLY COORDINATED, AND (2) THE POTENTIAL IMPACT ON OTHER U.S. INTERESTS AND ISSUES IS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

3. TO HELP PRECLUDE SUCH SLIPPAGE, YOU ARE URGED TO ASSURE THAT ANY SIGNIFICANT NEW ACTIVITY PROPOSED IN THE DRUG FIELD, WHETHER ENFORCEMENT OR REHABILITATION/TREATMENT HAS RECEIVED PRIOR APPROVAL AND COORDINATION IN THE DEPARTMENT (BOTH S/NM AND THE REGIONAL BUREAU). WHEN IN DOUBT, PLEASE QUERY THE DEPARTMENT. VANCE

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